

Application No.: 10/528,354
Reply to Office Action dated June 13, 2006
Amendment dated August 10, 2006

Docket No.: 0091-0243PUS1
Art Unit: 3676

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to Figures 1, 3, 4 and 6.

Attachment: Replacement sheets
 Marked-up sheets

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REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussions is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawing were objected to; the abstract was objected to; and claims 1-4 were allowed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Objection to the Drawings

Regarding the objection to the drawings, the Office Action indicates the reference numerals 30a and 31 are not illustrated in the current drawings. It is respectfully noted the enclosed Figs. 4 and 6 have been amended to included these numerals. The Office Action also indicates that element 30b is not described in the specification. However, it is respectfully noted this element is mentioned in the specification at page 7, line 11.

The Office Action also request Figs. 1 and 2 be labeled "prior art." Accordingly, enclosed are amended Figs. 1 and 2 including new labels "Prior Art" as requested by the Examiner.

Objection to the Abstract

The Office Action also objects to the abstract. Accordingly, enclosed is a new abstract that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

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Further, the claims have been amended to better correspond with the U.S. claim drafting practice and have not been amended to distinguish from any cited art. That is, the claims have been amended to merely correct minor cosmetic informalities.

The specification has also been amended to include the proper headers and to correct minor informalities.

The Examiner has also acknowledged the claim for foreign priority and receiving the certified copy of the priority document. The Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 5, 2006, has also been considered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David A. Bilodeau (Reg. No. 42,325) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

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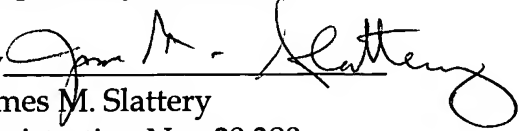
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: August 10, 2006

JMS/DAB/ta

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Attachments: Abstract
Substitute Specification
Marked-up Specification
Replacement Sheets (Figs. 1, 2, 4 and 6)

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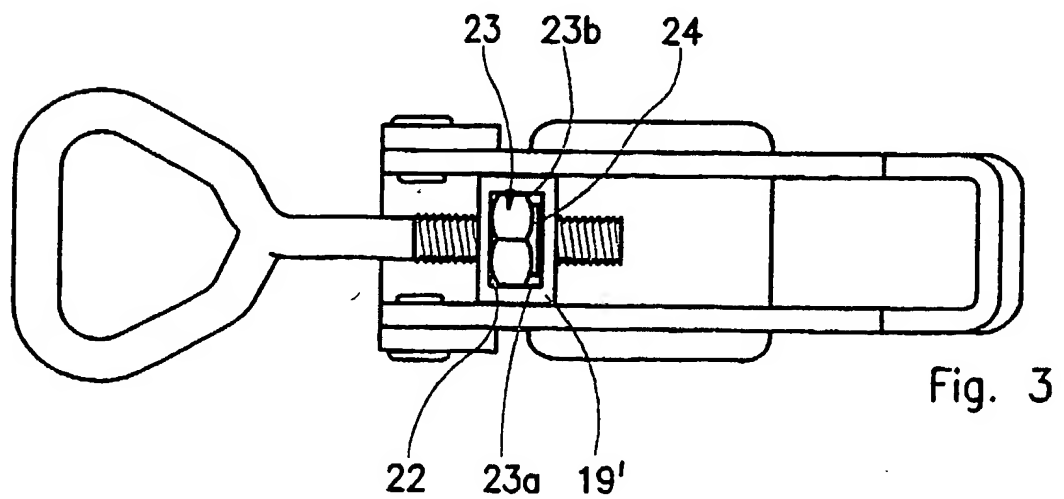
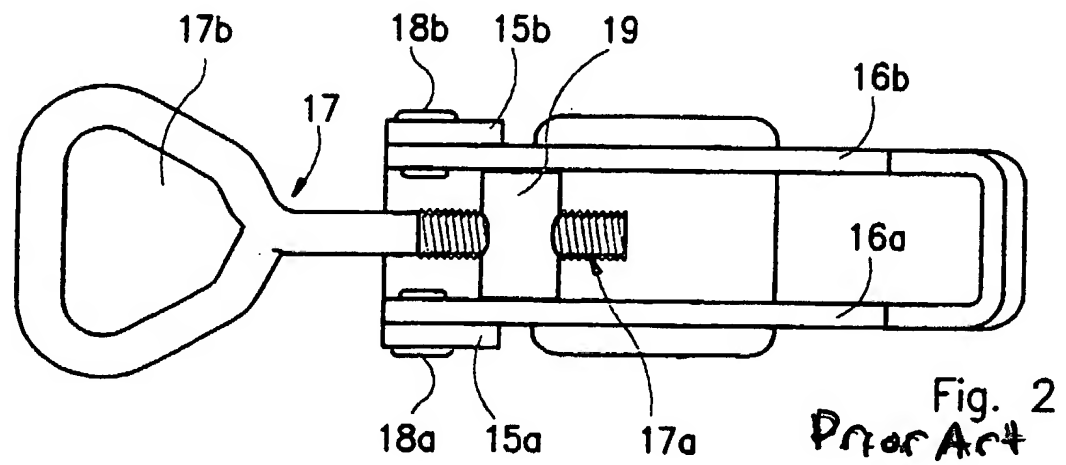
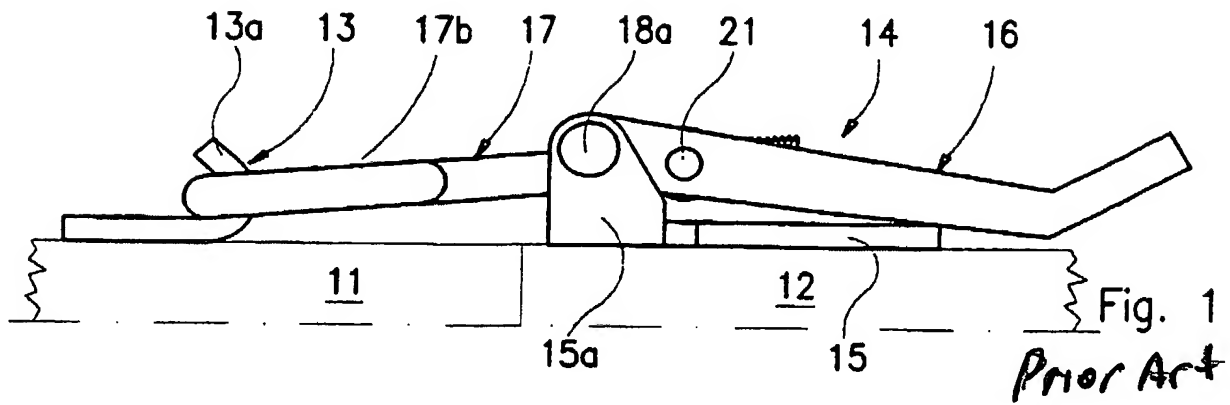
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ABSTRACT

A retainer for an adjustment device for an over-center fastener for securing and clamping two parts together by applying a pulling force between said two parts by a lever. The adjustment device includes an externally threaded member and an internally threaded member rotatable relative to one another. Further, the internally threaded member is a lock nut having a friction increasing insert and is unrotationally held by a structure movable with the lever. The structure is a bent sheet metal structure having a generally inverted U-shaped portion including opposed flange portions and a web portion, in which the flange portions are linked to a respective flange portion of the lever and the web portion carries an integral extension. In addition, a first portion of the extension is bent at substantially 90° so as to extend along and abut a respective forwardly directed edge of the flange portions, a second portion of the extension is bent at 90° in relation to the first portion, and a third portion of the extension is further bent at 90° in relation to the second portion. Also, flap portions originally extending in opposite directions from the third portion are bent towards the first portion so as to be mutually parallel, thus forming a nut retaining pocket.



1/4



2/4

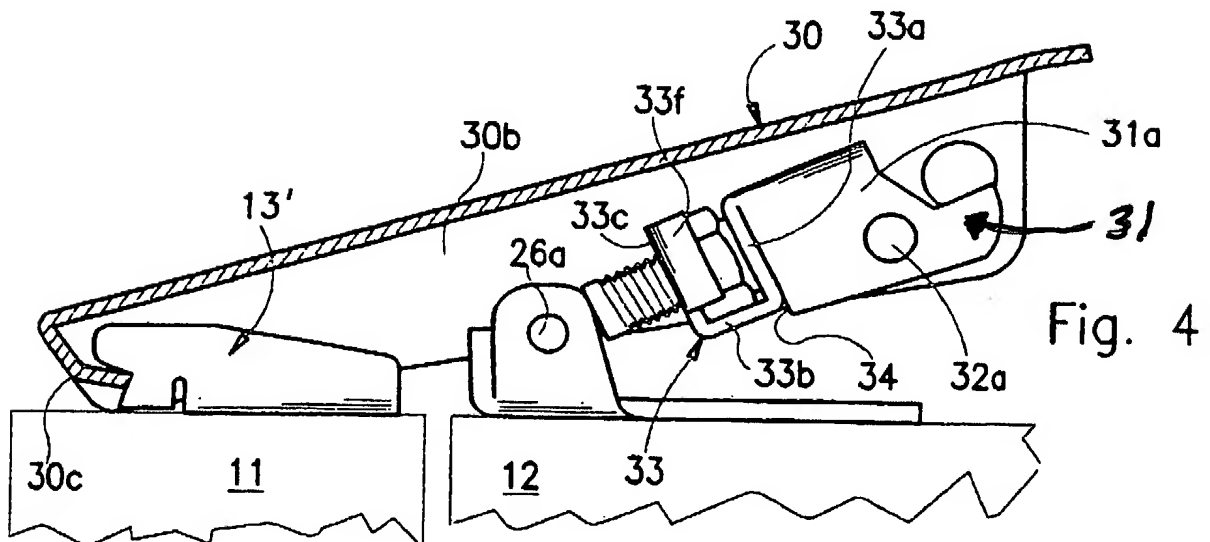


Fig. 4

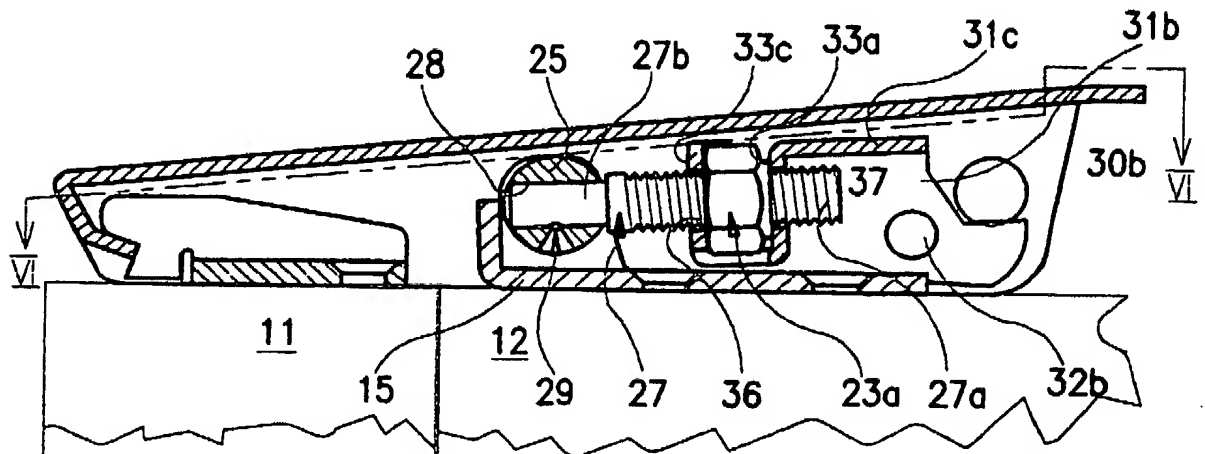


Fig. 5

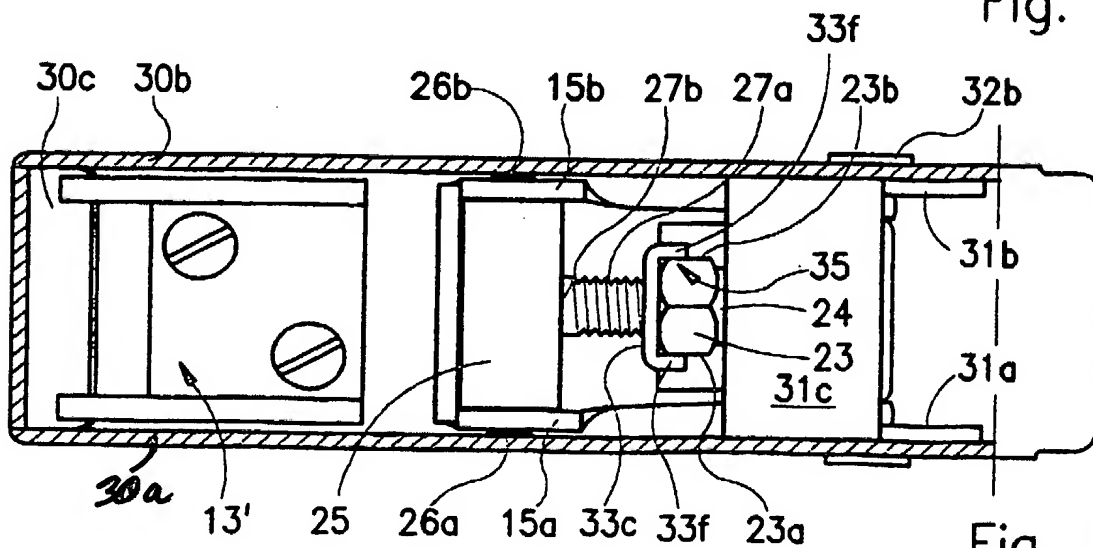


Fig. 6